

5 DAYS in BRECON BEACONS



Our organiser had made the arrangements and he had hired a house in Hirwaun , near Aberdare where we were all to meet up and located very near the southern part of the Brecon Beacons. One travelling down from Yorkshire, one up from Dorset, another across from Hertfordshire and myself up from Cornwall.

Journey on the Monday for me was not so bad at first, the strong wind was behind me pushing me forwards. A30/M5 up to Bristol then the Prince of Wales bridge. Wasn't sure about that due to the gusting high wind so had a route planned to take me up to Gloucester to pick up the A40. In the end I risked the bridge and hid beside a large lorry going across! Turned off the M4 and took the A449 to Raglan to pick up the A40. Then the A465 past Methyr Tydfil to Hirwaun. Hirwaun is a great little village and very friendly. And well placed to strike out over the Beacons. Of course it was all up to the pub once we had arrived, the nearest being The Lamb. Very friendly. Much, much later it was back to our rented house to decide where we was off to the following day.

The ride out took us along the Mountain Road, A4069, stunning views. There is a car park part way along to stand and stare at scenery.



Then on to the A40, Llandovery, A483 and B4519 past the Sennybridge Training Area and in to Brecon.



Brecon is a great town, plenty to see and plenty of places to eat at. We chose the Brecon Tap, nice beer and great pies! The Royal Welsh Regimental Museum is always worth a visit. Loads to see including artifacts from the Zulu Wars. Then it was jump on the A470 and back to Hirwaun.

Arrived back at base and then down to The Lamb we sat and looked at the weather forecasts. Oh dear! Looked very much like we would be grounded. And it proved so. So next day was spent just chilling out and checking bikes over. The following day was only a short ride to check out some waterfalls, but the weather held for us so we were happy. The Brecon Beacons are a great place to ride around, scenery is breathtaking. OK the weather can be 'a bit damp' but we are all ruffty-tuffty bikers (not).

The weather for the ride home to Cornwall was dry and even sunny most of the time. But the great God of Surprises had a closure of the M5 to give to me. With traffic diverted off and trying to get along the A30 through the Blackdown Hills it was always going to be character building! 5 Hours instead of the 3.5 on the way, but at least I was on a bike and could wriggle through...

If you have not toured the Brecon Beacons yet, add it to your list.

Steve Redpath-Bergman

